IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

NAZARENKO et al.

Appl. No. To be assigned

Filed: June 22, 2000

For:

Improved Primers and Methods

for the Detection and

Discrimination of Nucleic Acids

Art Unit: To be assigned

Examiner: To be assigned

Atty. Docket: 0942.4980002/RWE/SEZ

Authorization To Treat A Reply As Incorporating An Extension Of Time **Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3)**

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to treat any concurrent or future reply that requires a petition for an extension of time under this paragraph for its timely submission, as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge all required extension of time fees to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036, if such fees are not otherwise provided for in such reply. A duplicate copy of this authorization is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Agent for Applicants

Registration No. 43,371

Date: June 22, 2000

1100 New York Avenue, N.W. Suite 600 Washington, D.C. 20005-3934 (202) 371-2600